

examination results were very satisfactory; indeed, when the difficulties of the district are considered, they are wonderfully good.

*Kawhia* (examined 26th March, 1903: Mr. Pope).—Though there assembled thirty-four children at examination, the average attendance for the preceding quarter was only eighteen, a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. The buildings lacked the neatness generally characteristic of our schools. Garden and grounds were kept well. Time-table should make fuller provision for English. The people showed little interest in the school, and the children had not much refinement, nor was there the smartness about them that one expects to see. Extra subjects were good. The teaching was on very satisfactory lines, though the English work wanted treating on more modern lines. The aspect of affairs was much more promising than at the former examination. The examination results, affected by a large proportion of young pupils, showed that the work was strong and good. The success was achieved in the face of difficulties of one kind and another, notably illness among the Maoris.

*Parauera* (examined 19th March, 1903: Mr. Pope).—The first examination of this school produced very pleasing results, so far as the elder children were concerned. The juniors did not do so well, having received less attention owing to the ill health of the assistant. The school has fully justified its existence. There were sixty-two names on the roll, and the attendance had been fairly regular. The order and discipline were very good, the condition of the children as regards cleanliness being exemplary. Handwork had been done to a really very useful extent. There was great reason to be satisfied with what had been done during the eight months of the school's existence. Mr. Herlihy had accomplished a very toilsome task in a very meritorious fashion. The effects of the school have been very far-reaching, and there were signs that a very considerable advance has been made by the Maoris here in the direction of civilisation and general improvement.

*Te Kopua* (examined 25th March, 1903: Mr. Pope).—As the new master, Mr. Coughlan, had been in charge only three days, no ordinary inspection was held. Both he and his wife had already made a very favourable impression. There are not many children in the district, and the attendance cannot, therefore, be very large. Still, Te Kopua has in the past done very good work, and, with the assistance of the elders, there is hope for its continuance.

*Te Kuiti* (examined 13th June, 1903: Mr. Pope).—Forty-seven children, of whom eighteen were Europeans, presented themselves for examination. Records are satisfactorily kept. Time-table shows need for less geography and more English. Order is fair. The school tone has improved greatly. Extra subjects were pleasing. One likes, however, to hear part-singing. The teaching is, on the whole, satisfactory, though there were some defects noticeable in the method of teaching English. Except in the case of handwork, which has, to say the least, not received adequate attention, the results are decidedly satisfactory.

*Hauaroa* (examined 15th June: Mr. Pope).—The establishment of this school has been so far a pronounced success. The school has, indeed, been found to be too small to accommodate the number of children, and a new room must be added. Fifty-nine children out of sixty-one were present. Records are not remarkably neat. Time-table contains many mistakes, and careful reconstruction is necessary. The order, under the circumstances, was satisfactory. Interest in the school is at present very great; parents and children give the school full support. Extra subjects are somewhat weak. It is important that the foundation work in the lowest classes should be laid as thoroughly as possible, and that in English complete sentences should be expected. The master must learn, also, to keep abreast of recent developments. On the whole, the results are good, and have been obtained by much hard work. What weaknesses are evident are not sufficient to detract from the credit that the school deserves.

*Te Waotu* (examined 11th June, 1903: Mr. Pope).—The attendance here had not been so high as one could wish, though a very creditable number came on examination-day. The time-table makes too much provision for copybook writing and not enough for conversational English. The order is quite satisfactory, and the tone marvellously improved. Extra subjects are moderate in quality. The teaching is very good. Complete sentences should, however, be insisted on. The master's wife deserves a word of praise for her very valuable help. Both teachers have the interests of their pupils really at heart, and are fast becoming two of our best teachers. The examination results are good in nearly every particular, and as a whole may fairly be called excellent.

*Ranana* (examined 9th June, 1903: Mr. Pope).—The attendance here has been fairly regular. Records are excellently kept. Great attention has been paid to the grounds. The organization of the school is also first class. There is also a very gratifying tone. The new class-room has proved to be of great use, and order now is entirely satisfactory. The teaching is careful and to the point. Extra subjects were satisfactory, drill being the best. Examination results show distinct improvement on former years, and the work of classes S3, S4, and S5 was very good indeed.

*Whakarewarewa* (examined 10th June, 1903: Mr. Pope).—The attendance here is very satisfactory and regular, and fifty-six children were present at examination. The state of the records earned the total possible marks. Time-table is good in every detail. The order and tone leave nothing to be desired. The extra subjects are very good, singing being excellent. The methods of teaching also deserved the highest marks. During the unfortunate illness of the master the school had been ably conducted by his daughters. The school has more than reached the highest expectations of the Department. The results are exceedingly good, and highly creditable to all concerned.

*Waiotapu* (examined 17th July, 1903: Mr. Pope).—The attendance here is generally, but not always, regular. There are not very many children available, and the climatic conditions are somewhat severe. More time should be devoted to conversational English in the lowest classes, and